INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

INCIDENT: On-Duty Hit Shooting - Suspect Deceased

IAB FILE NUMBER: SH2372358

URN: 014-17104-2814-013

DATE/TIME: December 31, 2014, 1624 hours

LOCATION: 101 West Compton Boulevard, Compton, CA

OPENING STATEMENT

On December 31, 2014, Deputies Aaron Reynoso, and Salvador Valencia responded to the Chevron gas station at 101 West Compton Boulevard, Compton, regarding a radio call of a person with a gun. At the scene, deputies observed Suspect Mayra Cornejo armed with a pistol and chasing her along a walkway near the southeast corner of the building. The deputies were positioned in the parking lot and commands were given for Suspect Cornejo to drop her gun. Suspect Cornejo ignored the commands, pointed her gun at and appeared to squeeze the trigger. Fearing and/or deputies would be killed, Deputies Reynoso and Valencia shot a combined fourteen times at Suspect Cornejo. After being struck by gunfire, Suspect Cornejo fell to the ground. Believing Suspect Cornejo was still armed and a threat, Deputy shot two times at Suspect Cornejo. She sustained nine gunshot wounds; two of which were determined to be fatal.

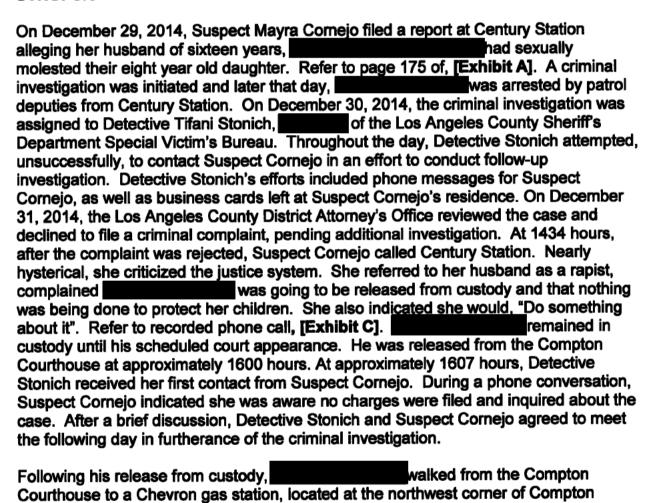
Lieutenant Dominic Valencia, Sergeant John Adams, and Sergeant Jeff Smith of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Internal Affairs Bureau responded to the scene and were briefed regarding the circumstances of the shooting. Sergeant Adams was assigned the responsibility for the administrative review of the incident.

Lieutenant Valencia checked to see that the Watch Commander, Lieutenant Anthony Lucia, took reasonable steps to ensure that the involved parties and witnesses did not discuss the incident among themselves or with uninvolved persons prior to being interviewed by the assigned investigators. Lieutenant Valencia also checked with Lieutenant Lucia that the involved and witness personnel did not collectively consult with their attorney or representative. In addition, Lieutenant Valencia checked to see if Lieutenant Lucia attempted to have the involved and witness personnel gather in the company of a supervisor, until they provided a statement to the assigned investigators.

The incident was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau. The results of their investigation were documented in the Homicide Book under URN 014-17104-2814-013, [Exhibit A].

The case was reviewed by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office Justice System Integrity Division and the shooting was determined lawful. The basis of their determination was documented in a letter to Homicide Bureau Captain Katz, dated September 7, 2016, [Exhibit B].

SYNOPSIS



IAB Note:

Boulevard and Willowbrook Avenue, Compton.

The Chevron gas station shares the building and parking lot with a McDonald's restaurant. The gas station and associated food-mart are located on the east side of the structure, while the McDonald's is located on the west side. There is no interior wall separating the two businesses. Personnel from

Compton Station commonly refer to the location as the "McChevron."

purchased food at McDonald's, then walked outside to call his
mother from a payphone. The phone was located at the southeast corner of the
building and affixed to the south wall. While standing at the phone, with his back to the
parking lot, Suspect Cornejo, armed with a .45 caliber pistol, approached from behind.
Suspect Cornejo reached around around and fired once. The bullet passed
through the front lower portion of the second place jacket, through his shirt and
through the front of his pants, near his zipper. The bullet did not strike his body.
grabbed the gun and was able to release the magazine from the
magazine well, then placed the magazine into his rear pants pocket. He turned to face
Suspect Cornejo and they wrestled for control of the gun. Suspect Cornejo referred to
him as a rapist (Transcripts, Page 5) and stated, "I told you I was going to
kill you." (Transcripts, Page 11). wrested the gun away
from Suspect Cornejo, while pleading his innocence. Suspect Cornejo continued to
physically assault with punches and kicks as held
the gun out of Suspect Cornejo's reach. At one point, success the placed the gur
atop a nighttime pay slot located on the east wall of the Chevron, near the southeast
corner of the building. As Suspect Cornejo continued her physical assault, she
maneuvered around and regained control of the gun.

The altercation was witnessed by patrons and employees from both Chevron and McDonald's, prompting several 911 calls to Compton Station. The callers provided a variety of suspect descriptions. Refer to 911 calls contained in [Exhibit D]. Consequently, a call was generated and broadcast over Dispatch 9 describing a male Black, wearing a gray jacket, inside the McDonald's, armed with a gun. The call was updated to describe a male Black suspect fighting with male Hispanics in front of the location. Refer to SCC Dispatch 9 radio traffic, Tag 175. 1622 hours, contained in [Exhibit D].

IAB Note:

Mayra Cornejo was also Hispanic and wore a brown UPS uniform. Mayra Cornejo was also Hispanic and wore a red top with white pants. The altercation never carried over inside the Chevron or McDonald's and never involved a male Black suspect, nor multiple Hispanic males.

The altercation and ensuing events were also observed by a Compton City employee, From Compton City Hall, Burnett monitored a surveillance camera affixed to the northeast corner of the Compton Courthouse. The camera captured and recorded a portion of the altercation, along with the deputy involved shooting. Refer to DVD-R, [Exhibit E].

As the 911 calls were received, Compton Station desk personnel advised patrol units, via the Compton Station Metro frequency of the developing situation and impending call. Desk personnel specifically referred to the incident as a, "417 and Possible 273.5."

	frequency exclusive to Compton Station and is utilized in conjunction with L-Tac.			
Unit 287D/PM's, Dewere assigned to the	puties Reynoso and immediately requested the handle and e call.			
	Unit 287D/PM's was a training car. Deputy was in his fourth month of training. Deputy Reynoso, a tenured field training officer, was filling in for Deputy regularly assigned training officer, who had the night off.			
At 1621 hours, the call was voiced over Compton Station's working frequency, Dispatch 9, identifying Unit 287D/PM's as the handling unit. Units 283D/PM's and 284D/PM's were assigned the assist. Upon hearing the call and having just concluded PM Shift Briefing, Unit 283T1/PM's, Deputy Valencia, assigned himself to the call and responded from Compton Station. Unit 280S/PM's, Witness Sergeant Carter, and Unit 285S/PM's, Witness Sergeant Lopez, also heard the call. In separate patrol vehicles, they followed Deputy Valencia out of Compton Station and responded to the scene.				
IAB Note:	The Chevron gas station is approximately 350 yards north of Compton Station.			
coordinated the call was instructed to tal instructed to meet the 283D/PM's was sub	1623 hours, Deputies Reynoso (Bookman) and (Driver) on Compton Station Metro Frequency. Initially, Unit 283D/PM's ke a position at the rear of the location and 284D/PM's was nem (handling unit) west of the location. While still enroute, Unit sequently instructed to take a position on Willowbrook Avenue, east airship was requested over Dispatch 9 and Air 21 acknowledged			
IAB Note:	Air 21 arrived after the deputy involved shooting occurred and assisted with coordinating a containment of the scene.			
Deputies Reynoso a Deputy Valencia ent Sergeant Carter ent Lopez positioned his	hours, Deputies arrived on scene nearly simultaneously. Earnd entered the southwest driveway from Compton Boulevard. Itered the southeast driveway from Compton Boulevard, and Itered off of Willowbrook Avenue from the west driveway. Sergeant Is vehicle across the street in the U.S. Post Office parking lot, directly It, affording him an overall view of the situation.			
As deputy personnel arrived, Suspect Cornejo and Continued to fight on the east walkway, in front of the Chevron portion of the building. Deputy Valencia				

Compton Station Metro frequency is a recorded tactical

southbound along the east walkway.

armed with a handgun, chasing

IAB Note:

made his way northbound through the parking lot and intended to take a containment position to the rear. As he travelled north, he observed to his west, Suspect Cornejo

Suspect Cornejo's arm was extended with the gun pointed at that point, Deputy Valencia was approximately 45 feet east and parallel to the couple. Deputy Valencia immediately positioned his patrol vehicle in a northwesterly direction, exited, pointed his pistol at Suspect Cornejo and tracked her as the couple ran south. Deputy Valencia moved to his west and gained cover behind a parked vehicle, approximately 10 feet east of the couple. Suspect Cornejo continued to chase positioned himself behind a metal, free-standing signboard in an effort to gain protection against Suspect Cornejo's assault. The signboard measured approximately 48 inches high. Deputy Valencia recognized the signboard offered no protection against gunfire. Suspect Cornejo stood on the opposite side of the signboard and continued to point her gun at the position. He shouted commands for her to drop her gun. Suspect Cornejo acknowledged Deputy Valencia's presence by looking at him, ignored his commands, manipulated her weapon as if to clear a jam, then reached over the signboard and again pointed it at a cowering
IAB Note: Deputy Valencia described Suspect Cornejo's manipulation of the gun as a
Believing Suspect Cornejo was about to kill Deputy Valencia fired ten shots from his duty weapon at Suspect Cornejo. Suspect Cornejo was struck by gunfire and fell to the ground.
Deputies Reynoso and after entering the parking lot, stopped their patrol vehicle directly south of the building. They exited their vehicle and elected to approach on foot. Deputy Reynoso later explained that, based on the nature of the call and configuration of the location, an approach on foot was a safer tactical option. As the two deputies moved in an easterly direction to meet up with Deputy Valencia, they sought the cover of parked vehicles. They heard Deputy Valencia shouting commands, then observed Suspect Cornejo and standard on the walkway near the corner of the building. From a distance of approximately 25 feet, Deputy Reynoso observed Suspect Cornejo pointing a gun while suppose shouted commands for Suspect Cornejo to drop her gun, but she did not comply. Believing Suspect Cornejo intended to kill Deputy Reynoso fired four shots from his duty weapon at Suspect Cornejo. Struck by gunfire, Suspect Cornejo fell to the ground.
Deputy who had been instructed by Deputy Reynoso to stay close during their approach on foot, moved with Deputy Reynoso toward Deputy Valencia. Deputy positioned to the left of Deputy Reynoso, saw Deputy Valencia's attention focused toward the walkway, then heard him shout commands to drop the gun. Deputy observed Suspect Cornejo armed with a gun, then heard gunfire. He was unsure if the

source of the gunfire was Deputy Valencia or Suspect Cornejo. From a distance of approximately 30 feet, Deputy believing she was still armed and a threat to deputies, Deputy fired two shots from his duty weapon at Suspect Cornejo.

The deputy involved shooting was witnessed by both Sergeants Carter and Lopez. Sergeant Carter, who initially intended to take up a containment position, parked her patrol vehicle at the northeast corner of the parking lot. She was running toward Deputy Valencia as gunfire erupted and took cover behind a parked car. Sergeant Lopez, from his position in the post office parking lot, observed the deputy involved shooting, then ran to the location to assist.

Immediately following the shooting, Deputy Valencia broadcast emergency radio traffic via the Dispatch 9 Duplex Patch. He advised a deputy involved shooting occurred, the suspect was hit and deputies were uninjured. Approximately 90 seconds later, while still on the patch, Deputy Valencia requested fire rescue to the location.

IAB Note:

Utilizing the Compton Courthouse video footage, [Exhibit E] in conjunction with Dispatch 9 radio traffic, [Exhibit D], investigators determined fire personnel arrived on scene approximately four minutes and forty seconds after the initial request for rescue.

As additional deputy personnel arrived on scene, two contact teams were assembled. One team approached Suspect Cornejo, while a second team approached and detained Deputies Martinez and Barajas were members of the first contact team and approached Suspect Cornejo. They observed her moving on the ground with her gun near her upper torso, within arms' reach. Deputy Barajas kicked the gun away to prevent Suspect Cornejo from re-arming herself. Sergeant Carter then patted down Suspect Cornejo for additional weapons. None were found. Suspect Cornejo remained on the ground until the arrival of fire personnel.

Deputy Hoyos, a me	ember of the sec <u>on</u>	<u>id contact team,</u>	_assisted with the detention of
	Prior to placing		into a patrol vehicle, Deputy
Hoyos patted down		and retrieved for	rom him a loaded .45 caliber
magazine that	prev	iously removed	from Suspect Cornejo's pistol.

Deputies Valencia, Reynoso and all advised Sergeant Carter of their involvement in the shooting. Shortly thereafter, the trio were transported to Compton Station, pending additional investigation.

Suspect Cornejo was treated at the scene by fire personnel, then taken via ambulance to Saint Francis Medical Center, Lynwood. At the hospital, her medical treatment continued until she was pronounced deceased at 1708 hours. During a post mortem examination, it was determined Suspect Cornejo sustained nine gunshot wounds. Two

of the wounds were opined to be fatal. Refer to Autopsy Report, page 240 of [Exhibit A].
Several customers and bystanders witnessed the events leading up to the shooting. However, after Suspect Cornejo fired at tables or sought refuge in bathrooms and kitchen areas. With the exception of the remaining witnesses did not see the actual deputy involved shooting.
was present during the entire incident. After Suspect Cornejo attempted to shoot him, he recalled deputies arrived and heard commands for her to drop the gun. He believed one, but possibly two deputies fired at Suspect Cornejo.
IAB Note: After learning Suspect Cornejo was deceased, told investigators, "What am I gonna tell my kids, man, what am I gonna tell them?" "She got shot because she was trying to kill me?"
was inside the McDonald's during the incident and through a window, observed Deputy Valencia standing near his patrol vehicle shooting at Suspect Cornejo.
was also inside the McDonald's during the incident and through a window, described Deputy Reynoso shooting at Suspect Cornejo.
INVOLVED PERSONNEL AND WORK HISTORY
Aaron Reynoso Deputy Sheriff Central Patrol Division Compton Station
Date of Employment: January 17, 2002 Date Assigned to Patrol: June 10, 2007 Prior Shooting Incident(s): Prior Founded Force:
Equipment Worn:
Sam Browne belt Magazine pouch (2) Magazines (2) Key holder

Handcuffs (2)
Smith and Wesson M&P pistol

Baton ring Oleoresin Capsicum spray

Radio

Expandable baton PR-24 baton (In radio car)

Deputy Sheriff

Central Patrol Division Compton Station

Date of Employment:

April 9, 2007

Date Assigned to Patrol:

July 27, 2014

Prior Shooting Incident(s):

Prior Founded Force:

5):

Equipment Worn:

Sam Browne belt Magazine pouches (2) Magazines (2)

Oleoresin Capsicum spray

Handcuffs (2) Flashlight

Beretta pistol

Smith and Wesson .38 revolver (Backup weapon)

Collapsible baton

PR-24 baton (In radio car)

Salvador Valencia,

Deputy Sheriff

Central Patrol Division Compton Station

Date of Employment:

October 2, 2006

Date Assigned to Patrol:

February 3, 2013

Prior Shooting Incident(s):

Prior Founded Force:

Equipment Worn:

Sam Browne belt Magazine pouches (2)

Magazines (2)

Oleoresin Capsicum

Handcuffs (2)

Taser

Smith and Wesson M&P pistol

Radio

Collapsible baton

PR-24 baton (In radio car) SUSPECT Mayra Cornejo DECEASED Female, Hispanic, DOB: 06/12/80 INJURIES Suspect Cornejo sustained nine gunshot wounds during the incident: Chest (3), left wrist (1), right leg (2), left leg(1), right index finger (1), left back (1). She was treated by Doctor Jones at Saint Francis Medical Center, Lynwood and pronounced deceased twenty one minutes after her arrival. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE All of the physical evidence located at the crime scene was collected under the direction of Homicide Investigators, Timothy O'Quinn, and Judith Luera, evidence description and the location where it was found are contained on pages 51-61 of [Exhibit A]. INVESTIGATORS OBSERVATIONS The scene was described in detail by Homicide Investigators Timothy O'Quinn, and Judith Luera, Refer to pages 57-60 of [Exhibit A]. The scene was photographed by Forensic Identification Specialist David Ozeta, of Scientific Services Bureau. Refer to (2) compact discs and thumbnail photos of [Exhibit F1. The scene was also documented in two computer aided sketches produced by Forensic Refer to pages 173-174 of [Exhibit A]. Identification Specialist Ryan Parker, WEAPON USED BY DEPUTY REYNOSO Deputy Revnoso fired (4) rounds of Department issued ammunition from his Department issued Smith and Wesson M&P pistol, Serial Number The of the Scientific weapon was examined by Senior Criminalist Manuel Munoz, Services Firearms Identification Unit. Refer to pages 150-152 of [Exhibit A]. WEAPON USED BY DEPUTY

The weapon was examined by

issued Beretta 92F pistol, Serial Number

Deputy fired (2) rounds of Department issued ammunition from his Department

Senior Criminalist Manuel Munoz, of the Scientific Services Firearms Identification Unit. Refer to pages 150-152 of [Exhibit A].

WEAPON USED BY DEPUTY VALENCIA

Deputy Valencia fired (10) rounds of Department issued ammunition from his Department issued Smith and Wesson M&P pistol, Serial Number The weapon was examined by Senior Criminalist Manuel Munoz, of the Scientific Services Firearms Identification Unit. Refer to pages 150-152 of [Exhibit A].

WEAPON USED BY SUSPECT

Suspect Cornejo fired (1) round of "FIOCCHI USA 45 ACP" ammunition from her Firestorm .45 caliber pistol, Serial Number Prior to removal of the magazine, the weapon was equipped with a, "Meggar-A-Auto Made in Italy" magazine containing (7) Live rounds. Automated Firearm System revealed no record on file; however, and indicated the weapon belonged to him and was typically stored in his attic.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

The property damage was documented on pages 59-60 of [Exhibit A].

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS

Detectives Robert Gray, and Luis Nunez, and Don't the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau were lead criminal investigators in the criminal investigation. The investigation was presented to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office Justice Integrity Division for review. Subsequently, Deputies Reynoso, and Valencia's use of deadly force was determined lawful [Exhibit B, Page 2].

LIGHTING AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

The incident occurred outside, in the daylight. No artificial sources of light were present. The weather was cool and clear.

RADIO TRAFFIC

Personnel utilized Compton Metro and Dispatch 9 frequencies during the incident. The radio traffic is separated into fifteen audio files, contained in [Exhibit D]. The following are time lines of pertinent radio transmissions, as documented on the WAV file recorder.

Compton Metro - 6:04 Duration:

00:15: 280D advises 417, Possible 273.5 at the McChevron.

00:22: 287D requests handle.

- 00:45: 287D advises entroute.
- 01:11: 287D begins coordinating call. Directs 283D to set up to rear.
- 01:29: 280D provides update on call. Suspect wearing "camo jacket."
- 01:38: 280D provides updated suspect description. Suspect wearing "OD green or gray jacket.
- 01:50: 287D directs 283D to set up on Willowbrook, east of location.
- 02:05: 287D directs 284D to 911B west of location.
- 02:57: 280D advises multiple calls received, suspect armed with black handgun, last seen in front of the teller's window.
- 04:20: 280D advises units to shut down code 3 responses (998 already broadcast on Dispatch 9).
- 05:03: Unknown unit advises 280D to have fire roll in.
- 05:15: Unknown unit asks 280D for ETA of fire.
- 05:50: 280D advises fire is on scene.

Dispatch 9 – 15:21 Duration

- 01:17: 287D asks SCC to check on air unit regarding 417 call.
- 01:20: SCC dispatches call (Tag 175).
- 02:39: Air 21 comes up on Dispatch 9.
- 02:44: SCC voices call to Air 21.
- 03:27: 287D advises Code 6.
- 03:41: 280S advises 10-97.
- 04:00: 285S advises 10-97.
- 04:08: 283T1, Deputy Valencia requests 10-33 and patch regarding 998.
- 04:45: 287D advises all deputies accounted for and disturbing party is down.
- 05:05: Air 21 advises an estimated six units on scene and begins coordinating containment.
- 05:35: Unknown unit advises SCC to have fire respond.
- 05:58: Unknown unit asks for ETA of fire.
- 08:35: 285S determines command post is established at Compton Station.
- 09:30: Air 21 advises fire is northbound on Acacia.
- 11:40: 287D advises fire is on scene.
- 11:53: Duplex Patch is dropped, frequency is cleared and units switch to tactical frequency, A-Tac 4 for duration of the operation.

INVOLVED EMPLOYEE DEPUTY AARON REYNOSO

On December 31, 2014, Homicide Detectives Robert Gray and Luis Nunez interviewed Deputy Reynoso. The interview was digitally recorded and transcribed. The interview was summarized in the Homicide Case Book, **[Exhibit A]**, pages 87-89. For a detailed account of the interview, refer to the attached transcripts.

On May 25, 2017, Internal Affairs Bureau investigators interviewed Deputy Reynoso at Internal Affairs Bureau. Deputy Reynoso was represented by Attorney Emily Suhr from the law firm Green and Shinee. The interview was digitally recorded and transcribed.

The audio file and transcripts were submitted with this case. For a detailed account of the interview and precise wording, refer to the attached transcripts.

INVOLVED EMPLOYEE DEPUTY

On December 31, 2014, Homicide Detectives Robert Gray and Luis Nunez interviewed Deputy The interview was digitally recorded and transcribed. The interview was summarized in the Homicide Case Book [Exhibit A], pages 89-91. For a detailed account of the interview, refer to attached transcripts.

On May 25, 2017, Internal Affairs Bureau investigators interviewed Deputy at Internal Affairs Bureau. Deputy was represented by Attorney Emily Suhr from the law firm Green and Shinee. The interview was digitally recorded and transcribed. The audio file and transcripts were submitted with this case. For a detailed account of the interview and precise wording, refer to attached transcripts.

INVOLVED EMPLOYEE DEPUTY SALVADOR VALENCIA

On December 31, 2014, Homicide Detectives Robert Gray and Luis Nunez interviewed Deputy Valencia. The interview was digitally recorded and transcribed. The interview was summarized in the Homicide Case Book, [Exhibit A], pages 85-87. For a detailed account of the interview, refer to attached transcripts.

On May 24, 2017, Internal Affairs Bureau investigators interviewed Deputy Valencia at Internal Affairs Bureau. Deputy Valencia was represented by Attorney Emily Suhr from the law firm Green and Shinee. The interview was digitally recorded and transcribed. The audio file and transcripts were submitted with this case. For a detailed account of the interview and precise wording, refer to attached transcripts.

EMPLOYEE WITNESSES

On December 31, 2014, Homicide Detectives Robert Gray and Luis Nunez, along with Internal Affairs Bureau Investigator Sergeant John Adams interviewed Witness Sergeants Mark Lopez and Libira Carter. The interviews were digitally recorded and transcribed. Sergeant Lopez' interview was summarized in the Homicide Case Book, [Exhibit A], pages 81-82. Sergeant Carter's interview was summarized in the Homicide Case Book, [Exhibit A], pages 82-83. For a detailed account of their interviews, refer to attached transcripts.

Internal Affairs Bureau investigators interviewed the following Department personnel.

Witness Deputies Daniel Hoyos, Roland Abbott, Luis Rangel, Marvin Guevara and Russell Helbing. The interviews were digitally recorded and transcribed. For complete statements made, more information and precise wording, see attached verbatim interview transcripts.

NON-EMPLOYEE WITNESSES

Homicide Detectives Robert Gray and Luis Nunez, along with Internal Affairs Bureau Sergeant John Adams interviewed The interview was digitally recorded and transcribed. The interview was summarized in the Homicide Case Book, [Exhibit A], pages 83-85. For a detailed account of the interview, refer to attached interview transcripts.
The following non-employee witnesses were interviewed by investigators from Homicide Bureau and Internal Affairs Bureau.
The interviews were digitally recorded and transcribed. For complete statements, more information, and precise wording, see attached verbatim interview transcripts.